

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, Claims 1, 6 and 11 are amended. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following Remarks.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the Mary 28, 2008 telephone Interview. The sum and substance of the Interview is contained in the above Amendment and following Remarks.

The Office action rejects Claims 1-4, 6-9 and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Ropp et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,429,546, hereinafter "Ropp"), and Claims 5 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Ropp in view of Hopkins ("Partitioning Digitally Programmable Power-Control for Applications to Ballasts", hereinafter "Hopkins"). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, Claims 1, 6 and 11 are amended to further define the feature of a first circuit coupled to receive a load current and separate out a harmonic component from the load current to measure a load harmonic current. Support for this feature is shown as $I_h(t)$ in Figure 2.

As agreed in the Interview, there is no teaching or suggestion in Ropp of this feature. It is respectfully submitted that Hopkins adds nothing to overcome this shortcoming in Ropp. For at least this reason, Claims 1-14 are allowable over the applied art, taken singly or in combination. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Should Examiner Hall believe anything further would be desirable in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

It is believed that any additional fees due with respect to this paper have already been identified. However, if any additional fees are required in connection with the

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filings of this paper, permission is given to charge account number 07-0868 in the name of General Electric Company.

29 May 2008

Respectfully submitted,

/Peter J. Rashid/

Peter J. Rashid
Reg. No. 39,464

Telephone: (810) 227-9077